SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Insert before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1:

Field of the Invention

Insert before the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4:

Background

Insert before the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 1:

Summary of the Invention

Replace the sentence beginning at page 10, line 19 with:

Brief Description of the ~~figure~~ Drawings

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 20 with:

Figure 1a shows a current density/potential ~~curves~~ curve of ~~a) of~~ a steel alloy according to the invention, and Figure 1b~~)~~ shows current density/potential curve of a known steel alloy No. 1.4435. Measurement conditions: 3.2% NaCl, pH 4.0, 40°C. x-axis: Potential in mV against saturated calomel electrode (SCE) as reference electrode; Y axis: the logarithm of the measured current density. The potential value indicated in the two figures is the limit potential at which pitting corrosion (strong increase in anodic current) commences.

Insert before the paragraph beginning at line 1, page 11:

Detailed Description

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 11 with:

~~The~~ Some of the steel alloys preferred according to the invention ~~of claims 3 to 7~~ exceed with their effective sum, as defined in the beginning, the minimal value required in medical technology for implant steels of 26.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 11 with:

The steel variant 1.4521 according to the invention is eminently suitable for the powder metallurgic manufacture using the MIM (Metal Injection Moulding) process, in particular because the nitrogen content required according to the invention can be supplied without problem during the compacting process (sintering) under a nitrogen atmosphere. The MIM process is known per se in the field of watch production. To produce a watch component according to the invention, a steel alloy which contains the required elements in the final quantities, ~~(these would be the elements which are named in any one of claims 1 to 7)~~ but may not contain enough nitrogen, is milled to form a powder and suspended using a liquid binder. This suspension is forced into a mould, for example by means of an extruder, the mould cavity of which has the shape of the casing part that is to be produced. Then, the binder is evaporated, preferably in vacuo, and the powder residue that remains in the mould is sintered. If the level of nitrogen in the alloy powder was initially insufficient, a nitrogen atmosphere of suitable pressure is applied during the sintering step, so that the alloy also takes up nitrogen during sintering. The choice of the suitable pressure of nitrogen to achieve a nitrogen concentration in accordance with the invention in the finished casing part can be determined by a series of tests.